



Longport Town Topics

Mayor Michael L. Cohen
Commissioner William A. Fiore
Commissioner John R. Murphy

January 2004

Making Spirits Bright on a chilly Winter's night

Santa must have brought the snow with him to Longport's annual tree-lighting event held Dec. 6th behind Borough Hall. The white flakes fell just in time to create a winter wonderland for all the children who came to see the lights switched on the red-ribboned evergreen.

With the snow came frigid temperatures causing the event to be held mostly indoors on the second floor of Borough Hall. Upstairs participants were greeted with steaming hot chocolate and cookies.

The holiday festivities continued on Sunday with a lunch with Santa sponsored by the Longport Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad.

The popular event always draws a crowd of children. Some took the opportunity to take a photograph and tell old St. Nick this year's wish list.

Later that evening, merry melodies could be heard at the Church of the Redeemer where the Longport Historical Society and Museum held its annual Christmas Concert.



(Above) Santa Claus greets children at the tree lighting Dec. 6th. Due to the cold weather, a second tree was lit inside Borough Hall.



(Left) Commissioner Bill Fiore hands out Christmas toys. (Right) Local children enjoy a slice of pizza at the Lunch with Santa Claus sponsored by the Longport Volunteer Fire and Rescue Department.



Celebrating Winter Holidays with our family of friends

The holidays can become a stressful time of limited parking spaces and long lines at shopping centers.

However, some of our senior residents found a haven of serenity with friends at the winter holiday luncheon held Dec. 17th. This festive luncheon was sponsored by Hersh and Enid Kozlov. Many participated in the singing of Christmas carols played by Helen Williams.

Attendees were welcomed to take home a small gift of a snowman. Those whose birthdays were nearest to Christmas Day were also welcomed to bring home the poinsettia centerpiece.



Promoting one of Longport's finest...



Captain David Buzby places his hand on the Bible as Mayor Michael Cohen swears him in. Commissioner Fiore (left) and Commissioner Murphy (right) join in the ceremony. Capt. Buzby has been a member of the Longport Police Department for 23 years. He was hired in 1981 and promoted to captain on December 17, 2003.

Beach vending license lottery

Residents and other potential ice-cream vendors might want to note the upcoming beach vending license lottery scheduled to be held at 4 p.m. March 8, 2004 in Commission Chambers of Borough Hall.

A lottery will take place for three, one-year beach vending licenses for vending water, ice cream and other ice-cream products on Longport beaches. The annual fee for a license is \$6,000.

Application forms are available at Borough Hall from the Borough Clerk and should be submitted prior to the lottery drawing date. Those who submit their applications on the day of the lottery, must submit them to the Chief of Police.

A vendor may not hold more than one license. The vending fee must be paid at time of license issuance.

Applicants interested in more information or with questions may call the Borough Clerk at 823-2731 or refer to Borough of Longport Resolution 2003-109.

Far East festivities for the New Year

For many of our residents, it was their first time ever celebrating the Chinese New Year. This unique treat was made possible by Fai's of Longport and sponsored by Oliver and Rose Totaro at our Senior Luncheon on January 21st.

Plenty of entertainment was provided by The Good Timers string band.

This year is the Year of the Monkey which began January 22nd.

The Chinese New Year is a 15-day celebration that ends with the Lantern Festival. This festival is

celebrated at night with lanterns displayed and children parading with the colorful, lighted decorations.

The New Year Celebration in China is one of its most important holidays of the year.

For more information please visit: www.educ.uvic.ca/faculty/

mroth/438/CHINA/chinese_new_year.html.

Life line for Longport seniors

The Longport Police Department has a life line program for the borough's elderly citizens. Is is a free service to Longport citizens. Those who are a part of the program must call in every-day prior to 10 a.m. to let dispatch know that they are ok. If a call is not received, then dispatch will call the resident, and if there is no response a police office will be dispatched to the see **phone** on page 4



Zoning code changes provide for more light, space and air

Many have witnessed the gradual disappearance of old familiar homes, often replaced with very large modern homes.

The new large homes, according to some residents, fill the property lots a little

too snugly. The Longport Planning Board considered the issue during the borough's master plan re-examination process. After a year of research, the planning board recommended changing some of the zoning

ordinances. Two amending zoning ordinances were proposed by the planning board, which borough commissioners introduced at the December Commission meeting and passed at the Jan. 7th meeting.

The new ordinances which are now in effect, call for a reduction in both maximum lot and building coverage for the Residential Single Family-1, RSF-2 and RSF-3 zones in the borough. The reduction in coverage is approximately five percent.

Another ordinance increases side yard setbacks for homes based on a scale of the property's lot width.

The new ordinances help limit the size of new homes and home alterations, as well as, help increase the light, space and air between homes. Those interested in more information may contact the building and zoning department by dialing 823-2731 ext. 108, 109 or 114.

Upcoming Borough Commission Dates

March 10

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

April 21

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

May 11

Commission Election Day
polls open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

May 12

oath of office 12 noon
ceremony

May 19

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

June 16

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

July 21

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

August 18

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

September 22

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

October 20

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

November 10

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

December 15

work session 4:30 p.m.
regular meeting 5:00 p.m.

Public Works Notice

With recent winter storm conditions, residents are advised to use caution on all borough streets.

When icing conditions occur, it is extremely difficult to clear from the side streets. Plow trucks cannot scrape low enough to the pavement in order to remove the ice. Any attempts to scrape the ice would most likely result in damage to the street. Salting alone is ineffective due to low traffic volume on side streets. High traffic volume is needed in order to create a "grinding" effect of the salt into the ice.

Please be assured that no street has been intentionally or purposely overlooked. Resident safety is the department's primary concern and everything possible is done to keep Longport's streets in the best condition possible. However, sometimes Mother Nature presents us with circumstances that challenge the best of our intentions.

Please call the public works department at 822-5759 if you feel your block is in a dangerous situation.

Phone

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person's home to make sure everything is ok.

To get more information or to register please call Amy Strawder at the police department at 822-2141 or visit www.longportpd.org.

Borough of Longport
Borough Hall
2305 Atlantic Ave.
Longport, NJ 08403

Town Topics

Is published by the Borough of Longport as a means to keep the community informed and up to date on current events and happenings in town.

Edited and compiled by:

Monica Czaplinski

Swearing-in fire officers

Several officers of the Longport Volunteer Fire Department and Rescue Squad were sworn in at the January 7th Commission Meeting. The officers from left to right include Capt. Richard Hirsch, Assistant Chief Bruce Funk, and Chief Levon "Lefty" Clayton. Mayor Michael Cohen (center) swore in the members along with Commissioner Bill Fiore (right) and Commissioner John Murphy (left).

The remaining officers and members of the department were sworn in by Comm. Fiore at their annual installation dinner held several days later.



ECRWSS
Postal Customer
Longport, NJ 08403

Local residents, thank you for "Making Longport Proud"

Hats off to . . .

* **J.J. Walsh** for his fantastic production "Aqueous" that premiered to a sold out crowd at the Margate Performing Arts Center, Friday January 23rd. The "Jaker" was given a special award by the governing body stating "You have always made us and Longport Proud." Watch out Steven Spielberg, you have competition.

* **Adam Busler**, an Atlantic City High School student was selected for membership in the National Society of High School Scholars, as well as, being a starting fullback for the Vikings Football team and an excellent javelin thrower.

* **Brandon Amir** for his honor roll grades in general and Hebrew studies at the Trocki Hebrew Academy of Atlantic County.

"Making Longport Proud" is a new addition to Longport Town Topics. If you know of anyone who falls into the category of making Longport proud, please contact Monica at the Mayor's Office by dialing 823-2731 ext. 119.

Longport Flood Protection Information Winter -2004

All of the Borough of Longport is located in the A-8 Base Flood Plain, which means that it is at or below Elevation 10.00. Being bordered by the Atlantic Ocean on one side and Risley's Channel the bay on the other, **Longport is susceptible to flooding**. Flooding can be caused by hurricanes, tropical storms, coastal storms- commonly referred to as Northeasters, and occasional high tides with heavy rain events. Flood water can fill the streets and low lying areas from six (6) inches to two (2) feet of water, depending on the elevation of the ground, such as in the March 1962 storm and the December storm of 1992 where all of Longport was flooded.

Flood Maps are available for your review at the Construction Code Office located on the second floor and the Longport Branch of the Atlantic County Library, both of which are located in the Borough Hall at 2305 Atlantic Avenue.

When the possibility of flooding may exist, the National Weather Service Office issues flood watches and warnings. All regional and local television and radio stations carry such warnings. This information is also transmitted on the NOAA Radio Station, 162.400 HMZ.

The Borough Office of Emergency Management (822-2141) also receives weather information through the New Jersey State Police NCIC/SCIC computer Teletype System, the Atlantic County Office of Emergency Management and through in house DTN Satellite weather system. The warning system includes voice over announcements on all cable television channels on Comcast Cable Television System. Downbeach Channel 2 on Comcast Cable now includes emergency information provided by the Office of Emergency Management.

Protective Measures You Can Take

Homeowners' Insurance does not cover damage due to floods. Flood Insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program reimburses you for flood damages to your property. With one annual premium, you can protect your most important investment - your home and your contents. Check with you Insurance Agent or Company on the low-cost preferred risk policy and other flood insurance protection for your home.

There are several other ways to protect your home from flood damage. They range from raising the level of the ground around the property, waterproofing the building's walls and doors, installation of flood gates, or actually raising the first floor of the dwelling above the flood plain elevation. The library has several books on these subjects that you can borrow to investigate what is best for you. The Borough Building Department (822-0569 ext. 114) by appointment will come out and visit your property and provide suggestions. The Building Department also contains a list of private contractors with knowledge in protective measures.

Homeowners should consider protection for windows and doors with hard sheeting or shutters. The smallest pieces of wind driven as well as wave driven debris can become deadly projectiles during storms and hurricanes. Barbecues, lawn, deck and pool furniture should be stored inside or tied down to permanent construction to prevent damage as a result of wind and wave action.

Additional information can be obtained by visiting the Internet at www.flood.org and/or www.fema.gov.

Remember, before doing any construction, additions or alterations to your home, check with the Building Department (822-0569 ext. 114) for permit requirements. **If you see any construction, additions or alterations to a home** (continued)

(continued) **without a Building Permit Yellow Placard displayed in their front window, report it to the Building Department.**

The storm drainage system will not function under high tide situations. As the tides recede, the storm drain system will begin functioning and remove the waters. The Borough of Longport Public Works Department has a storm drainage maintenance program. Twice a year the inlets and basins are inspected and cleaned. Borough Ordinance prohibits the throwing, dumping or discharge of debris and/or litter into the storm drains and gutters. Grass clippings, leaves and small tree or shrub branches can accumulate and clog the storm drains. Help maintain the water quality, because our storm drain system empties into the ocean and the bay. Anything placed within the storm drain system will cause a danger to fish, wildlife and the natural habitat. If you see anyone dump, discharge or throw debris into the storm drain system, immediately contact the Longport Police (822-2141). If you see a clogged storm drain contact the Longport Public Works Department (822-5759).

Personal Protection

Do Not walk or drive through flood waters! Manhole covers may have become dislodged, or there may be submerged debris which can cause you serious injury and damage, or your vehicles could stall and you could become trapped. **Stay Away** from downed wires, while it is true they may only be cable or telephone wires, they may also be **Live Electric Wires. Under Severe Flood Conditions**, if you leave your home, turn off the electric at the main breaker and the gas. **Listen** closely to radio and television for information and instructions from your local Emergency Management Office.

Please be our Valentine this upcoming February 18th

The Valentine's Day Senior Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, February 18th at noon. Angel DiPentino of Premier Realty adds her special talents to make this day a "Special Unforgettable Senior Moment." The food will be prepared by Barrels of Margate and all the ladies will be given Valentine Day mementos. Please call Monica at the Mayor's Office with your reservations at 823-2731 ext. 119 for catering purposes.

Longport's Midwinter Luncheons are supported by donations provided by sponsors. Our special thanks to our sponsors. So far, they include:

Premier Properties Real Estate

Oliver and Rose Totaro

Baumgardner Construction Co., Inc.

Peter and Fai's of Longport

Hersh and Enid Kozlov

The Winchester House

CBA Engineering - Richard Carter

Nancy Philips Gilmore, Inc.

Thomas Subranni, Esq.

James Klinghoffer

If you would like to add your name to our growing list of sponsors for these wonderful events please call Monica at the Mayor's Office at 823-2731 ext. 119.



***H a p p y
Valentine's Day!***

